

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting
REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION
December 4, 2015
Division: Wildlife

Regulation Number: 301 KAR 2:015

Regular or Emergency: Regular

Proposed Recommendation: A citizen's group requested to feed released quail at Miller Welch-Central Kentucky WMA.

Justification: Based on the request and Commission discussion, feeding of released pen-raised quail would be allowed only during the months of February, June and July. This is the only time period to be able feed quail and not affect hunting opportunity on Miller Welch Central Kentucky WMA.

Effective Date: April 2016

Action Requested of Commission:

☒ File the Regulation

☐ Other: _____

Action Taken by Commission:

☐ File the Regulation

☐ Other: _____

Motion made by: _____

Motion Seconded by: _____

Action: Approved Denied Referred back to Committee

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting
REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION
December 4, 2015
Division: Wildlife

Regulation Number: 301 KAR 2:176

Regular or Emergency: Regular

Proposed Recommendation: Modification of 301 KAR 2:176 Require mandatory checking of all deer killed using out of season permits.

Justification: The Wildlife Division recommends creating a user-friendly checking requirement that will assist staff with better harvest information which will allow staff to make better management recommendations. Currently deer harvested using an out of season permit are not checked and the number of deer taken under this authorization is unknown.

Effective date: April 2016

Action Requested of Commission:	Action Taken by Commission:
<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> File the Regulation	<input type="checkbox"/> File the Regulation
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

Motion made by: _____

Motion Seconded by: _____

Action: ☐ Approved ☐ Denied ☐ Referred back to Committee

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting
REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION
December 4, 2015
Division: Wildlife

Regulation Number: 301KAR 2:122
Regular

Regular or Emergency:

Proposed Recommendation: Use of Slingshot for Small Game

Justification: Mr. Jim Harris is scheduled to address the Commission to request legalizing the use of slingshots for the taking of small game.

Effective date: April 2016

Action Requested of Commission:	Action Taken by Commission:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> File the Regulation	<input type="checkbox"/> File the Regulation
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

Motion made by: _____

Motion Seconded by: _____

Action: **Approved** **Denied** **Referred back to Committee**

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting
REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION
December 4, 2015
Division: Wildlife

Regulation Number: 301 KAR 2:178

Regular or Emergency: Regular

Proposed Recommendation: 2015-2016 Deer Hunting on WMAs and Other Public Areas, 301 KAR 2:178

The Wildlife Division recommends the following changes for each WMA:

1. Knobs State Forest and WMA - Open for the youth firearms deer hunting seasons

Justification: Regional staff identified this as an area that can offer additional youth opportunity, yet it has a low potential for conflicts with other users and neighboring landowners.

2. Grayson Lake WMA - Open under statewide restrictions for the late muzzleloader season

Justification: Staff feel opening the late muzzleloader season will allow more deer to be taken off the area, yet not over harvest the standing crop. It will also provide additional hunting opportunity to muzzleloader hunters. The deer herd is at a level that it can handle the additional pressure.

3. Higginson - Henry WMA - Remove the 1 deer per season limit

Justification: Based on staff observations deer are very abundant on the WMA. Hunting pressure on the WMA has declined in recent years likely due to the addition of other public hunting within driving distance of the WMA. The deer herd is at a level that it can handle the additional pressure. Staff has also documented deer damage to the crops and indicate there is a need to mitigate that damage by allowing a few additional deer to be taken on the area.

4. Big Rivers WMA -

- Close area to all deer hunting and archery hunting except for quota hunts, from the Monday following the October youth deer weekend thru November 30th.
- Creation of an archery/crossbow only quota hunt from the Monday following the October youth deer weekend thru November 30th.

Justification: When the property was acquired in 2012 regional and program staff surveyed the property and determined the population was at a socially acceptable level. The deer population exhibited plenty of quality animals, yet deer damage wasn't occurring. Staff have continued to survey the population since acquisition and population trends indicate a major reduction in deer numbers. The area is currently open under statewide regulation for archery and crossbow hunting. These archery/crossbow hunters are harvesting too many deer to maintain pre-2012 population estimates. The highest harvest is centered around the last week of October and the entire month of November. Due to this fact, staff believe that the implementation of an archery/crossbow quota hunt is necessary. However, the area will still

remain open under statewide regulations for all archery/crossbow hunters before and after the quota hunt period. The only deer hunting that will be allowed during this time-frame will be from quota archery/crossbow and quota firearms hunters.

5. KDFWR administered quota hunts

- Allow drawn quota hunters to bring 1 assistant to accompany them on the hunt
- Require assistant to check in and check out with the drawn quota hunter

Justification: Currently only drawn quota hunters can take part on a quota hunt. If a drawn hunter wants to bring a youth or mentor they are not allowed. Also a youth who is drawn must have a supervisor; if that youth supervisor doesn't apply; the youth cannot participate in the hunt.

Effective date: September 2016

Action Requested of Commission:	Action Taken by Commission:
<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> File the Regulation	<input type="checkbox"/> File the Regulation
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

Motion made by: _____

Motion Seconded by: _____

Action: Approved Denied Referred back to Committee

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting
REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION
December 4, 2015
Division: Wildlife

Regulation Number: 301 KAR 2:172

Regular or Emergency: Regular

Proposed Recommendation: 301 KAR 2:172 Deer Hunting Season, Zones and Requirements.

The Wildlife Division recommends the following changes:

1. Change the following counties from a zone 2 to a zone 1:
 - Hardin
 - Webster

Justification: Deer population estimates for each county have reached a level where more antlerless deer need to be harvested in order to control the population. Over the last few years there has been an increase in the number of crop depredation permits issued and harvest has been near record highs.

2. Change the following county from a zone 3 to a zone 2:
 - Marion

Justification: Deer population estimates have reached a level where more antlerless deer need to be harvested in order to control the population. The county was reduced to zone 3 back after the EHD outbreaks in 2007 and 2010. Population levels have recovered since those outbreaks and are at or over pre-2007 estimates. The county is experiencing severe crop depredation and more deer need to be harvested to control the population. Over the last few years the county has been setting record harvest numbers.

3. Create language that defines allowable weapons for legal take of deer.

Justification: Elk and bear regulations have already been adjusted in this manner. The language in the deer regulation should be consistent with the others.

Effective date: September 2016

Action Requested of Commission:	Action Taken by Commission:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> File the Regulation	<input type="checkbox"/> File the Regulation
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

Motion made by: _____

Motion Seconded by: _____
Action: Approved Denied Referred back to Committee

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting
REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION
December 4, 2015
Division: Wildlife

Regulation Number: New regulation number **Regular or Emergency:** Regular

Proposed Recommendation: Temporary seasons for new properties.

Justification: The Wildlife Division recommends drafting a regulation allowing KDFWR to establish temporary seasons and regulations for new properties, through signage and public notice, until such regulations can be established through the routine process. Newly acquired properties often require special hunting seasons or regulations. Due to timing of acquisitions and the regulation cycle, it is not always possible to enact these regulations in the timeframe in which they are needed.

Effective date: April 2016

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<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> File the Regulation	<input type="checkbox"/> File the Regulation
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

Motion made by: _____

Motion Seconded by: _____

Action: **Approved** **Denied** **Referred back to Committee**

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting
REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION
December 4, 2015
Division: Wildlife

Regulation Number: 301 KAR 2:132

Regular or Emergency: Regular

Proposed Recommendation: 2015-2016 Elk Management Recommendations for 301 KAR 2:132 - Elk Depredation permits, landowner cooperator permits and quota hunts.

The Wildlife Division made the following recommendations:

1. Create a Limited Entry Area (LEA) around Fishtrap WMA

The Wildlife Division recommends the creation of a Limited Entry Area around Fishtrap WMA.

Justification: Fishtrap WMA is currently an active release site. Currently elk hunting is legal on the surrounding private property and recently released elk can be legally harvested by drawn hunters. The Division would like to create a larger area to protect this new herd. This LEA will be closed to elk hunting until the herd reaches a harvestable population. This new LEA shall be called Levisa Fork LEA.

2. Open the Fishtrap WMA to elk hunting

The Wildlife Division recommends re-opening Fishtrap WMA to elk hunting.

Justification: This recommendation is to open this area under statewide regulations; however the elk population will be managed on an LEA designation and no elk hunting will be allowed in the LEA (which includes Fishtrap WMA) until the herd reaches a harvestable population.

3. Expand the Prestonsburg LEA

The Wildlife Division recommends the expansion of the Prestonsburg LEA.

Justification: Due to the recent addition of Revelation Energy Hunting Access Area, Prestonsburg LEA should be expanded to encompass these new properties. The property has easy access and a readily available elk herd. The expansion of this LEA will prevent over/under harvest.

4. 2016-17 Elk Permit Recommendations

While this action does not require a regulation change, the Wildlife Division will recommend the number of permits to be issued at the December Commission meeting.

Justification: The 2015 season is currently ongoing and results from this year's hunt are vital in making recommendations for the 2016-17 hunting season.

Effective date: April 2016

Action Requested of Commission: _____X_____ File the Regulation _____ Other: _____	Action Taken by Commission: _____ File the Regulation _____ Other: _____
Motion made by: _____	
Motion Seconded by: _____	
Action: Approved Denied Referred back to Committee	

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting
REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION
December 4, 2015
Division: Wildlife

Regulation Number: 301 KAR 2:132

Regular or Emergency: Regular

Proposed Recommendation: Landowner Elk Permits

Justification: After a request from a member of the public, the Commission moved this issue forward to allow elk landowner permit holders to be allowed to elk hunt on private property adjacent to the enrolled land if the landowner (which can't be the same as the landowner of the enrolled property) grants permission to access for elk hunting.

Effective date: April 2016

Action Requested of Commission:

☒ **File the Regulation**

☐ **Other:** _____

Action Taken by Commission:

☐ **File the Regulation**

☐ **Other:** _____

Motion made by: _____

Motion Seconded by: _____

Action: ☐ **Approved** ☐ **Denied** ☐ **Referred back to Committee**